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Stanley Coulter (pp. 553–1002) gives a comprehensive catalogue of the flowering plants, and ferns and their allies, indigenous to the state. The paper includes a bibliography and a voluminous introduction, with sections on the ecologic distribution of the plants (particularly those of the dunes), re-forestation, poisonous plants, and noxious weeds.

The reports of the state inspectors of mines, gas, and oil are also incorporated into the report. From these we learn that the production of coal for 1899 exceeded by 14 per cent. that of any preceding year, while the petroleum product shows an increase in value of 50 per cent. The average rock pressure in the natural-gas field is 155 pounds, as compared with 173 pounds in 1898, foreshadowing the early exhaustion of this popular fuel.

C. E. S.

The Geography of the Region about Devil's Lake and the Dalles of the Wisconsin, with some notes on its Surface Geology. By ROLLIN D. SALISBURY and WALLACE W. ATWOOD. Bulletin No. 5, and No. 1 of the Educational Series of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey. Published by the State. Madison, Wis., 1900.

It is seldom that a state report is readable for one who is not a geologist, or of more than local interest; but the bulletin just issued by the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey is an exception. The bulletin is a volume of 151 pages with 39 plates and 47 cuts. It is one of the handsomest volumes ever issued by a state survey. The photograph is the best medium for describing nature clearly and sharply, and it has been used to good advantage throughout the report.

The report is a description of the geography and surface geology about Devil's Lake and the Dalles of the Wisconsin. Perhaps there is no region in the interior where more objects of geological interest are found in an area of a few square miles than in the territory about Devil's Lake. All the various types of topography developed by glacial action are seen in contrast with those of the driftless area, and several problems in structural geology are presented. River phenomena especially those connected with the ice invasion, are numerous. One of the best features of the book is the illustrations. The mechanical work is excellent, and each plate is typical of what it illustrates.

The book is divided into two parts: Part I describes the topography, and Part II gives the history of it development.

The quartzite ridges are the most prominent geographic features. In several places they rise to a height of 800 feet above the Wisconsin River and extend for over twenty miles in a general east-west direction. In no place is the quartzite found in horizontal beds, the dip varying between 15 and 90 degrees. Upon and against the quartzite are horizontal beds of sandstone which have been deformed but little; the sandstone topography, modified by the drift, forms the second great geographic feature of the region. It is found north and south of the quartzite ranges, and between them along the valley of the Baraboo.

The first chapter in Part II gives an outline of the history of the formations which outcrop about Baraboo. It is shown how the quartzite was changed from loose sand to quartzite and how deformation and metamorphism were developed during the uplift. The question as to the amount of erosion before the deposition of Cambrian sediments is discussed, but no definite figures can be given. The same is true as to the thickness of the quartzite. After the quartzite had been eroded for a long interval of time, geographic changes caused the sea to again cover the region and the Paleozoic strata were laid down unconformably on the eroded and folded quartzite.

Some time in the Paleozoic, perhaps at the close of the Niagara, the region was again uncovered by the sea, and the work of erosion was begun anew upon the sediments which now completely covered the quartzite bluffs.

In chapter III is given a concise treatment of rain and river erosion, adapted to the area in hand. The question of base-leveling is also discussed. Chapter IV is given over to the description of striking scenic features about Baraboo such as Devil's Lake, the Narrows, Parfrey's and Dorward's Glens, the Dalles of the Wisconsin, Natural Bridge and Castle Rock.

Chapter V deals with the glacial period and is the longest and most important in the book. The first part of the chapter is devoted to a discussion of ice, ice action, and the general results of an ice invasion. As far as possible the illustrations are taken from the region of Baraboo.

The last part of the chapter deals with the changes in drainage effected by the ice. At the time the ice was on, much of the country to the west was covered by large lakes. As the ice retreated these lakes were drained, giving rise to many smaller bodies of water. The remnants of some of them are still in existence.

The bulletin will be useful to teachers and to geologists in general. Good use can be made of it as collateral reading in the class room. It is No. I in the Educational Series of the Wisconsin Geological Survey and is intended for use in schools. It is an innovation in state survey work and will be of great help in the teaching of geography and geology.

F. H. H. C.

A Preliminary Report on a Part of the Clays of Georgia. By GEORGE E. LADD, Assistant Geologist. Bulletin No. 6 A, Geological Survey of Georgia, 1898.

Preliminary Report on the Clays of Alabama. By HEINRICH RIES, Ph.D. Geological Survey of Alabama, Bulletin No. 6, 1900.

The volume on the clays of Georgia contains a general discussion of clays, touching their origin, composition, properties, especially those which affect their commercial value, and a discussion of the modes of handling and testing clays. A chapter is devoted to the "Fall Line" clays, on which the field work in preparation for the volume was chiefly concentrated. The results of this field work, stated in the author's language, were: "First, the tracing of the Cretaceous strata eastward, across the state, thus necessitating a modification of the geological map of Georgia, which has hitherto limited the Cretaceous to a strip of territory, traversing the central western part of the state. Second, the discovery of white kaolin, some of which ranks with the valuable South Carolina deposits as 'paper clay.' Third, the experimental proof that some of these kaolins, suitable for fire-clay, are more refractory than any of the noted fire-clays of the United States."

The clays of the state which are found to be commercially valuable are mainly in the Coastal Plain, and a sketch of the geology and physiography of this part of the state is introduced. The clay industries of the state are reviewed by localities, and some comparatives notes gathered from other states are introduced. The excellent paper and typography of the volume are to be noted as adding greatly to the attractiveness and readability of the bulletin.

The bulletin of the survey of Alabama likewise contains a general discussion of clays, touching the same general points as the discussion